

Crawford Avalanche

O. PALMER,

JUSTICE AND RIGHT.

Publisher and Proprietor.

VOLUME XIX.

GRAYLING, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1897.

NUMBER 37.

1

DECEMBER WHEAT \$1.09.

This is the Highest Notch Touched Since the 1891 Corner.

Amid the wildest excitement seen on the Chicago Board of Trade within the memory of the oldest trader December wheat sold for \$1.00 Thursday. This is the highest mark which the cereal has reached since the historic combine of 1891.

During the four hours of session a rise of 7½ cents over the opening price was recorded. The Chicago price was 10 cents over Minneapolis and Duluth, 10 cents over New York and 7 cents over St. Louis.

At this price the wheat of an eighty-acre Kansas farm, land value \$15 per acre, was worth more than the land itself, the farm equipment and the house and barn. Not a farmer in Minnesota or the Dakotas with 2,400 bushels of wheat, the product of eighty acres last harvest, but what could have sold his grain in Chicago Thursday for more than his land would bring, and have a few hundred dollars to the good.

At the price of the first few minutes had been maintained during the rest of the session it is probable that kernels of wheat would have sold as diamonds at the close. The cereals shot up to \$1.05 at a bound and the holders of big wheat contracts could have disposed of them at this stage without any trouble. When \$1.05 was bid for December wheat some of the bulls thought the temperature was getting rather high and dumped a lot of their claims. This action had the effect of easing the market and checking temporarily the efforts of the more aggressive.

Ten minutes of comparative quiet reigned in the stormy session, and then the bulls by a coup started the figures their own way again. So complete was the surprise that many of the dealers declared that they expected to see the price sell up to \$1.50 before the end of the session.

At \$1.00 the explosion of a Krupp gun could not have been heard above the pan demic. The bulls forced the cereals by fractions of a cent up to \$1.07. Here their foemen made a temporary rally and brought another elevator full of grain into their midst. A half hour of deadlock resulted, but the dealers with the horns metaphorically speaking, concentrated their forces on a weak point in the other ranks and shot the price to \$1.09, the high water-mark of the day and of six years. Then succeeded the usual stamp as the time for the clang of the gong approached and December closed at \$1.07.

THE SKAGUAY PASS.

It is a Trail of Horror and Death Leading to the Klondike.

The Skagway Pass, en route to the Klondike region, is thus described by an American miner who has just returned: The Skagway Pass is a rank fake, advertised by a lot of Shylocks and mountebanks at the town of Skagway for the purpose of making money out of the deluded people who are persuaded to go that route. What is called the "Skagway Pass" is no pass at all; it is simply forty-eight miles of mire. I never saw such human suffering in my life as I witnessed

at the Skagway Pass.

JOSEPH BUTLER, Sec.

COURT GRAYLING, I. O. F., No. 700—Meets second and last Wednesday of each month.

J. WOODBURN, C. B.

R. W. WENZEL, R. S.

GRAYLING HIVE, No. 34, L. O. T. M.—Meets every first and third Saturday of each month.

MRS. F. WALDE, Record Keeper.

REGULAR CONVOCATION OF PORTAGE LODGE, No. 141, K. of P., meets in Castle Hall the first and third Wednesday of each month.

S. N. INSLEY, K. of R.

J. W. HARTWICH, G. C.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

S. N. INSLEY, M. D.,

Physician and Surgeon,

Office over Fountain's Drug Store.

OPEN AND EVENING.

Entrance, half between Fountain's and Peterson's jewelry store.

GEO. L. ALEXANDER,

ATTORNEY AT LAW, ETC.

Pine Lands Bought and Sold on Commission.

Non-Residents' Lands Looked After.

GRAYLING, MICH.

Office on Michigan Avenue, first door east of the Bank.

O. PALMER,

Attorney at Law and Notary.

Collections, Conveyancing, Payment of Taxes and Debts, etc., etc., etc.

Prompts attention given all customers.

OCT. 1, '97.

F. D. HARRISON,

(Successor to F. A. Brigham.)

Tonsorial Artist,

GRAYLING, MICHIGAN.

Shaving and Hair-Cutting done at the Latest Style. Prices Moderate. Located at the Shop corner Michigan Avenue and Railroad Street.

Prompt attention given all customers.

OCT. 1, '97.

You Can Get...

all kinds of plain and fancy

Job Printing—letter heads,

bill heads, envelopes, cards,

invitations, programs, posters,

etc., etc., at this office at....

...Low Prices.

It....

is a well-known fact

that judicious advertising

always pays—especially newspaper advertising.

If you put your ad. in the right

paper, your business

will grow, because people

will see that you are

alive, and they would

rather deal with a live

man than a corpse. If

you advertise in this

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The Avalanche

O. PALMER, Publisher.

GRAYLING, MICHIGAN.

GREAT MAIL ROBBERY

\$100,000 IS REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN STOLEN.

Registered Matter Is Missing on a Branch of the Central Railroad of New Jersey—One Postal Clerk Cannot Be Found—Business Outlook.

Registered Mail Stolen.

Investigation is now being made of what is supposed to be one of the biggest robberies in the history of the New York postoffice. The robbery is said to be in the railway-mail-service and confined exclusively to registered letters. The exact amount taken cannot be learned, but it is stated officially to be in the neighborhood of \$100,000. This figure is thought to be excessive by some who are investigating the case, but all agree that it is the largest amount ever taken at any one time in the registry department. The robbery is confined, so far, investigation has shown, to that section of the Central Railroad of New Jersey which is known as the New York, Somerville and Enston branch. The discovery was made on Nov. 9, but the secret was kept by the postoffice authorities until now. It is known, so the statement is made, that \$30,000, the total amount carried in two bags, was taken. This sum was missing on Nov. 9. How long the defalcation had gone on prior to that time has not been ascertained. On the day the robbery was discovered Robert E. Lang, a clerk employed on the New York, Somerville and Enston branch, disappeared, and has not been found. In addition to Lang there were employed W. J. McLean, T. S. Tucker and J. D'Arcy. Since Nov. 7 hundreds of complaints have reached postoffices, making inquiries after registered letters that never reached their destination. The chief inspector and his staff at the postoffice in New York have several files filled with these complaints.

MILD WEATHER INTERFERES.

The Price Situation, However, Is One of Sustained Strength.

Brads' report for the week says: "Mild weather throughout most of the country has interfered to some extent with the distribution of winter-weight clothing and other seasonal goods, and trade from first hands is quiet even than last week. Jobbers and retailers, however, report a steadily increasing and in some regions very active business in holiday goods, groceries and kindred products. Favorable reports come from Chicago, Kansas City, St. Louis and St. Paul. The price situation is one of sustained and even aggressive strength. Wheat is higher, and all other cereals have sympathized with wheat. Coffee, copper, cotton, dairy products, leaf tobacco and raw sugar are also among the prominent staples which have been enhanced in value. The decreases have been few and slight. Cereal exports continue very large, though showing a falling off from last week's heavy total. Total exports of wheat and flour from the United States and Canada this week aggregated 6,065,638 bushels, against 6,099,000 bushels last week. Corn exports also show a falling off, aggregating 3,005,000 bushels this week, against 4,583,000 bushels last week."

CELEBRATED CASE DECIDED.

The Nebraska Supreme Court Passes on the Powers of Receivers.

The Supreme Court at Omaha, Neb., has passed upon the case of A. U. Wyman, receiver of the Nebraska and Iowa Fire Insurance Company, against L. B. Williams, George E. Wright, S. R. Johnson and other stockholders and directors of the company, affirming the decision of the District Court handed down by Judge Walton in 1882. The decision of the Supreme Court in effect is that the authority of the receiver of an insolvent corporation to collect assessments is unquestioned; that the members of a board of directors of an insolvent corporation who took part in its meetings are in no position to question the liabilities for the amount of assessments levied at such meeting, because of the fact of no judgment having been rendered against the corporation.

Plan for Large Libraries.

H. C. Nash, librarian of Stanford University, Palo Alto, Cal., and J. C. Howell, librarian of the University of California, are endeavoring to change the copyright laws and build national libraries in the big cities. The plan is to require authors, obtaining the protection of a copyright, to supply copies of their work to several depositories, located in cities in different sections of the country.

Sultan's Life Attempted.

Two soldiers in the imperial service at Yildiz Kiosk, the palace of the sultan at Constantinople made an attempt on the sultan's life. This was frustrated by the attendants of the sultan. The sultan had the men tortured in the hope of extracting the names of the instigators, but both died without revealing anything.

Negro Friend Lynched.

Charlie Jones, the negro who murdered Mrs. Brown Smith and her four children near Wesson, Miss., has been captured and lynched by an infuriated mob.

Didn't Know It Was Loaded.

Ronald Schleifer, aged 11, shot and killed his brother Harry, aged 13, at St. Louis, Mo. He did not know the gun was loaded.

President's Mother Dead.

Mrs. Nancy Allison McKinley, mother of President William McKinley, died at her home in Canton, Ohio.

Shot in the Back.

Another assassination has been placed to the record of Tangipahoa parish, Louisiana. The other evening in the full glare of the hotel lights S. B. Mallen, a stranger there, was shot to death. He was standing on the hotel gallery and the assassin shot him from behind.

Two Negroes Hanged.

At Albiah, Ala., Jim Glover and Sam Fields, both colored, were hanged on the same gallows. Glover was convicted for killing his wife and Fields for killing his mistress.

Jennings Gang Captured.

Four members of the Jennings gang of outlaws were lodged in jail at Muscogee, I. T. The two Jennings brothers and Tom O'Malley were captured by four of United States Marshal Bennett's men while traveling in a covered wagon toward the Arkansas line.

Invitation on Quartz.

A slab of quartz, with veins of gold prominently showing, will convey California's invitation to President McKinley to attend the golden jubilee of the discovery of gold. The precious rock will have engraved on its face the invitation to the President.

LOVERING'S PUNISHMENT.

Text of General Alger's Order Reprimanding Captain Lovering.

Secretary Alger has public the order reprimanding Capt. Lovering of the Fourth infantry at Fort Sheridan, who was recently sent marooned for his alleged ill-treatment of Private Hammond. It reads as follows: "By order of the President, the proceedings, findings and sentence in the case of Capt. Lovem, Lovering, Fourth infantry, are approved. It is, however, disappointing that an offense so grave and as an example so far-reaching as this should have been visited with so light a penalty. There is no question but that Private Hammond deserved punishment for his conduct, but he should have received it in a lawful way. The military law governing the army are explicit. They prescribe the duties of officers and enlisted men with the penalties for their violation. Under them both have rights and obligations. When, therefore, an officer, with the intelligence and experience with which Capt. Lovering is credited not only violates these laws, but exhibits such a lack of humanity as is shown in this case, he should receive a more severe sentence than a mere reprimand. Committing such acts degrades the officer more than the soldier he punishes and shows unfitness for the care and command of men. Under no circumstances should they recall with sorrow and regret, but this case is aggravated by the fact that after weeks of deliberation, this officer evinces no regret for his wrongs."

DODGE THE EXCLUSION ACT.

Wholesale Traffic in Bogus Naturalization Papers in Italy.

Commissioner of Immigration Fitchie in New York has been notified by Commissioner General Powderly that the State Department at Washington has been informed by the United States ambassador at Rome that a wholesale traffic in forged naturalization papers is being carried on in Italy. The object of these forged methods, Mr. Powderly said, is to effect the entry into the United States, and it is not our purpose now to take any steps that would lead to a breach of mutual good will, but at the same time Japan will stand firmly in the maintenance of its rights and privileges acquired under treaty with the Hawaiian Government. If the United States decided to annex Hawaii, we hope to be able to enforce our demands for indemnity for the violation of treaty rights in the expulsion of Japanese immigrants from the island and their exclusion from the rights acquired under our treaty."

in a forcible manner, the destruction by fire of the wooded lands of the provinces that has been going on steadily for years, and which, unless checked, will in a few years more leave the province (and Quebec as well, but not to such an extent) stripped of its woodlands. Dr. Bell of the geological survey at Ottawa last year published a pamphlet enumerating the vast tracts of land that have been burned over during the past twenty years. Dr. Bell claims that once Canada loses its forests, it will also lose, to a large extent, its present beneficial rainfall, and drought will be frequent and extensive. The doctor states more miles of lumber have been burned in the last 100 years than have come under the lumberman's axes. Certainly, that every year many miles of splendid forests are being charred and splintered by bush fires. Recently, near Ottawa, three villages, Canadian, South Indian and Cheney, were destroyed, and 1,200 people made homeless.

JAPAN EXPECTS INDEMNITY.

Toru Hoshi Gives the Mikado's Position Regarding Hawaii.

United States, admitted in an interview with a representative of the Associated Press that the object of his mission to Japan, from whence he has just returned, was to ascertain the views of his Government on the proposed annexation of Hawaii and to procure instructions from the Mikado relative to the course he was expected to pursue in case the treaty shall be ratified by Congress. Mr. Hoshi said: "The impression has gone out to the American people that we propose to recall the protest entered by Japan against the acquisition of the Sandwich Islands by the United States Government. This is misleading and untrue. Japan has always maintained amicable relations with the United States, and it is not our purpose now to take any steps that would lead to a breach of mutual good will, but at the same time Japan will stand firmly in the maintenance of its rights and privileges acquired under treaty with the Hawaiian Government. If the United States decided to annex Hawaii, we hope to be able to enforce our demands for indemnity for the violation of treaty rights in the expulsion of Japanese immigrants from the island and their exclusion from the rights acquired under our treaty."

DEATH IN A SNOWSLIDE.

Two Miners Swept Into Eternity in Montana.

Word has been received at Helena, Mont., that two miners, John Bassett and Frank Weber, were killed in a snowslide at the Hecla mine, ten miles from Glendale. The men had been working near the top of the mountain and started down the slope toward the Hecla. One of them dislodged a small quantity of ice and snow and that started a regular avalanche, which carried both men down the mountain. The accident was witnessed by other miners and search was at once made for the bodies and they were recovered the next night. The country around Hecla has for years been torn up on account of its snowslides, from which many deaths have resulted.

Guns Roar in China.

A special dispatch to London from Shanghai says: "On Friday last Capt. Becker, with 310 German marines, left Kao-Chou bay to occupy the surrounding villages, whence they proceeded to capture the city. The Chinese forts opened fire and the Germans replied, killing three of the garrison, which thereupon fled in disorder. The Chinese general, in command, was captured, but afterward liberated. Several German sailors were injured by stones flung by the inhabitants of the villages. In return for this the head men of these villages were beaten with bamboo sticks by order of the German commander. It is reported in London that China is willing to pay an indemnity of 1,000,000 taels (about \$785,250) and to grant all the German demands, including the temporary cession of Kao-Chou bay and adjoining territory." According to a special dispatch just received from Paris, the French cruisers Jean Bart, Isely, and John's favorite words, "light," "love," "truth," "life," "darkness," being freely used.

To Manufacture Enamel Signs.

A company has been incorporated in St. Louis with a capital of \$100,000 for the manufacture of enamel signs and the ornamentation of any metal with an enamel surface. The plant will be located in North St. Louis and is expected to be in operation by Jan. 1. All street signs now in use in this country were made in England or Germany.

Rich Strikes on Dog Creek.

News of a marvelous strike on Dog creek that in richness is said to exceed the Klondike is brought down from Alaska. Dog creek is located fifty miles on the river from Dawson City, on the south side of the Yukon.

Jay Gould Not a Bigamist.

The case of Mary Ann Angell, claiming to be Jay Gould's widow, has been thrown out of court in New York.

Killed by a Train.

E. S. McVey of Mexico, Mo., was killed by a Wabash train at Moberly.

\$2 Counterfeits.

Dayton, Ohio, is flooded with counterfeit \$2 bills.

MARKET QUOTATIONS.

Chicago—Cattle, common to prime, \$2.00 to \$5.75; hogs, shipping grades, \$3.00 to \$3.75; sheep, fat to choice, \$2.00 to \$5.00; lamb, No. 2, red-\$1.00 to \$1.04; corn, No. 2, 25c to 20c; oats, No. 2, 21c to 22c; rye, No. 2, 46c to 47c; butter, choice creamery, 22c to 24c; eggs, fresh, 18c to 21c; new potatoes, 50c to 65c per bushel.

Indianapolis—Cattle, shipping, \$3.00 to \$5.75; hogs, choice light, \$3.00 to \$5.75; sheep, common to choice, \$3.00 to \$4.50; lamb, No. 2, 20c to 22c; oats, No. 2, white, 26c to 27c; oats, No. 2, white, 23c to 25c.

St. Louis—Cattle, \$3.00 to \$5.50; hogs, \$3.00 to \$3.75; sheep, \$3.00 to \$4.75; lamb, No. 2, 20c to \$1.01; corn, No. 2, 20c to 25c; oats, No. 2, 21c to 22c; rye, No. 2, 46c to 47c.

Cincinnati—Cattle, \$2.50 to \$5.25; hogs, \$3.00 to \$3.75; sheep, \$2.50 to \$4.75; wheat, No. 2, 93c to 94c; corn, No. 2, mixed, 26c to 28c; oats, No. 2, mixed, 23c to 25c; rye, No. 2, 46c to 47c.

Detroit—Cattle, \$2.50 to \$5.25; hogs, \$3.00 to \$3.50; sheep, \$2.50 to \$4.25; wheat, No. 2, 90c to 91c; corn, No. 2, yellow, 26c to 28c; oats, No. 2, white, 24c to 26c; rye, 46c to 48c.

Toledo—Wheat, No. 2 red, 94c to 96c; corn, No. 2, mixed, 26c to 27c; oats, No. 2, white, 21c to 23c; rye, No. 2, 46c to 48c; clover seed, \$3.10 to \$3.15.

Milwaukee—Wheat, No. 2, spring, 83c to 87c; corn, No. 3, 26c to 28c; oats, No. 2, white, 23c to 25c; rye, No. 2, 46c to 48c; barley, No. 2, 40c to 43c; pork, meat, \$7.00 to \$7.50.

Buffalo—Cattle, \$3.00 to \$5.25; hogs, \$3.00 to \$3.75; sheep, \$3.00 to \$5.25; wheat, No. 2, red, 94c to 96c; corn, No. 2, yellow, 26c to 28c; oats, No. 2, white, 21c to 23c; rye, 46c to 48c.

New York—Cattle, \$3.00 to \$5.25; hogs, \$3.00 to \$4.00; sheep, \$3.00 to \$5.00; wheat, No. 2, red, 93c to 95c; corn, No. 2, 33c to 35c; oats, No. 2, white, 26c to 28c; rye, 46c to 48c; barley, 15c to 23c; eggs, Western, 21c to 25c.

The Avalanche

The British steamer "Avoca" with about 1,000 men on board, from Jamaica for Cape Town, has arrived safely. A rumor prevailed in Halifax that the "Avoca" had founders, but the report was not credited in London.

The Avoca in Port.

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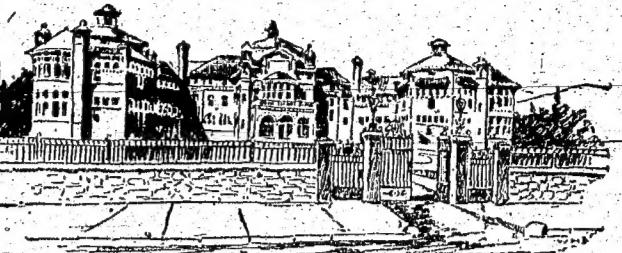
Invitation on Quartz.

A slab of quartz, with veins of gold prominently showing, will convey California's invitation to President McKinley to attend the golden jubilee of the discovery of gold. The precious rock will have engraved on its face the invitation to the President.

Vast Forests Charred.

At the coming session of the Ontario, Canada, Legislature, it is said, some steps will be taken to bring before the House

HOMEOPATHIC HOSPITAL FOR SAN FRANCISCO.



The homeopathic hospital which the citizens of San Francisco are to build is designed to be one of the finest institutions of its kind on the continent of North America. The University of California having refused to include the homeopaths in the allied college, the homeopaths and their friends set to work to get even, and the result will be a magnificent medical and surgical hotel, which, it is hoped by the new school of treatment, will make the "regulars" green with envy. The institution has already been endowed by Mrs. Phoebe Hearst with a ward for children, and some of the most prominent citizens in California are deeply interested in the enterprise.

COUNT'S WICKED SCHEME.

Would Unite Europe in a Commercial War on America.

Count Agenor Goluchowski, the Austrian Minister of Foreign Affairs, who desires to unite Europe in a commercial war on the countries of America, has the reputation among European diplomats and statesmen of being a peaceful man. His speech, in which he almost violently advocated a commercial war on America, was to ascertain the views of his Government on the proposed annexation of Hawaii and to procure instructions from the Mikado relative to the course he was expected to pursue in case the treaty shall be ratified by Congress.

The homeopathic hospital which the citizens of San Francisco are to build is designed to be one of the finest institutions of its kind on the continent of North America. The University of California having refused to include the homeopaths in the allied college, the homeopaths and their friends set to work to get even, and the result will be a magnificent medical and surgical hotel, which, it is hoped by the new school of treatment, will make the "regulars" green with envy. The institution has already been endowed by Mrs. Phoebe Hearst with a ward for children, and some of the most prominent citizens in California are deeply interested in the enterprise.

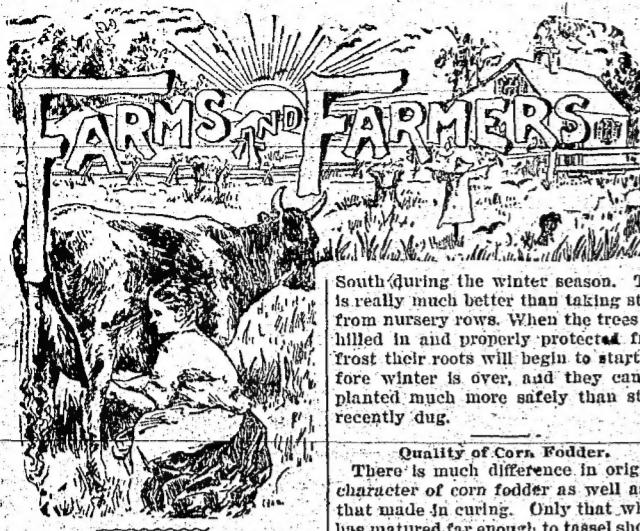
concerning it, of course; but this much may be said, at least: The girl who behaves well, dresses well, rides well because she enjoys the pastime, and because she is in need of suitable outdoor exercise may be sure of calling forth respect and admiration wherever she goes.

WOMAN'S EXPRESSION.

The Peculiar Story It Tells to Those Who Take Time to Observe It.

The faces of women one passes in the street form curious stories, say the Family Doctor. One woman purses her lips, another screws her eyes into minuteness, while a third will wrinkle up her forehead and eyebrows until she looks absolutely ugly. The trick is an unconscious one, but is none the less a trick, and a bad one.

There is no reason why any woman should look forbidding and bad-tempered just because she is annoyed about something. Deep-seated trouble has a way of writing itself upon the face, whether we will or not. Sickness, too, has its handwriting, and will not be concealed by art. But the frown caused by superficial trouble should not be entertained by the face for an instant.

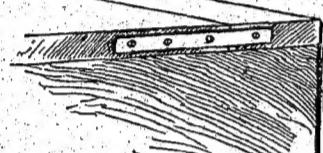


Homemade Hinges.

One frequently needs a great number of small hinges in making chicken and other coops. The two sketches given herewith show homemade hinges that are better than leather and cheaper than the hardware dealer's steel butts. The one shown first is made of screw eyes, inserted with a round rod of wood

SCREW EYE HINGE.

or wire running through them. Screw eyes come in all sizes so that almost any strength of hinge can thus be made. The two eyes can be placed close together and wired with fine wire if desired. Occasionally a bit of hard wood and a few screws will make a very serviceable hinge, attached as shown in the second picture, which tells its own story. Have the wood stout enough so



STRAP HINGE.

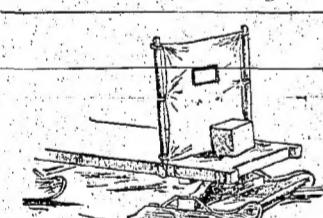
that the screws will not split it, and use round-headed screws for the pivot if possible.—New England Homestead.

Annie Pomace as Feed.

There is considerable nutriment in pomace as it comes from the mill. Stock will eat it quite readily if fed before it begins to ferment. This, however, it does very soon if exposed to the air. Consequently it is best to place the pomace in air-tight barrels or hogsheads, so as to keep air from it, and cover the pomace with something that will hold down the carbonic acid gas and prevent its escape as it forms. This is really ensiling it. The pomace itself has not nutritive value to make this worth while. Its chief value is its succulence, and it should be fed with grain, hay or meal, so as to give the proper proportion of nutrition. When put up in air-tight barrels, and kept slightly below freezing temperature there will be no more fermentation in the pomace than there is in the silo, and it can be used till late in the winter.

Windbreak for the Driver.

Drivers in winter often suffer severely and unnecessarily from the cold winds. Returning home without a load the wind has a chance to blow upon them unobstructed. Have two small stakes and four holders for them, as shown in the sketch. Provide a stout piece of duck and sew rings to it as suggested. A small glass with its wooden frame can be inserted, and two small openings made for the reins. If the wind is in front, at either side or at the driver's back, he has simply to change the stakes and his sheet of duck to escape its fury. When not in use the sheet can be folded, with the glass in-



DRIVER'S WINDBREAK ON SLED.

side, and placed in the box used as a seat. Such a contrivance will save much suffering and can be had at a very slight cost.—Orange Judd Farmer.

Why Fattening Stock Eat Straw.

Domestic animals like variety in feed as much as does man himself. Possibly they are more partial to variety than are men and women, because the taste of animals is less vitiated. A fattening steer or sheep which is fed highly nitrogenous food will eat a good deal of bright grain straw, so as to supply the proper proportion of carbonaceous nutrition. When animals are fed corn, less straw will be eaten, as the corn is itself chiefly starch, which is only another form of carbon. For sheep that are fed beans and straw, the straw of wheat or oats will be eaten almost as readily as hay. It is needed to prevent the nitrogenous ration being too concentrates.

Preparation for Winter.

Summer farming is but a preparation for winter. Food is cheaper in summer, but prices are lower. While the pasture is a valuable aid to the dairyman, it is sure to cheapen prices at times when grass is abundant, the market being regulated by the supply. The best dairymen grow crops for use on the farm in winter, preferring to feed their produce at the barn and convert it into milk and butter in winter, when higher prices rule.

Ordering Nursery Stock.

To make sure that an order can be filled it should be sent in as early as a date as possible. It is best to order for spring delivery in the early winter. The order will be filled, and the rule in all nurseries is first come first served. In the North all nurseries take up their out-door stock early, and fill it in so as to be able to fill orders from the

CRAZE FOR NOVELTY.

MANY OLD GARMENTS ARE NOW IN USE.

Modifications of the Blouse—Waist Coverings that Appear to Keep the Wearer Warm, but Do Not Do So—Three Very Fashionable Hats.

What to Wear.

New York correspondence: OOD authorities begin to whisper that blouses have had their day, so if you can discover anything newer on the horizon of fashion, by all means cut new cloth according to the newer model. But that discovery is not an easy one to make, and to feel sure of, because it looks now as if blouses were good for at least an entire season more, and as, if women would then be sorry to give them up. Just now they are being made more and more elaborate.

The ever popular shooting jacket, with its many pleats front and back, makes a charming blouse design when gaily modified. Rich lines of embroidery are made to represent the plents, the belt seems to produce the blouse fullness above the waist line, which is really a matter of fit and cut, while below the regulation close clinging blouse skirts are modified to carry

them. The gown in the middle of this second large picture was another product of the rush for oddities. It had a yoke effect so striking as to be more in keeping with ballroom than the street. The sides of its front were alike, but that was too conventional a star, so the yoke effect on the skirt was permitted to go its own original way. It was composed of greenish gray faille, the trimming being black chantilly lace stripes edged with black jet bands.

After such models a little matter like fastening to one side seems a very original and restful expedient. The last blouse was put here chiefly to show that the blouse need not have skirts. The one just described did not have them, but that was a princess counterpart, and the last costume of the other pictured row of three had blouse and skirt and bodice closely matched by their trimming. This fig. which was

in a nut brown novelty sulting, had an entirely plain skirt, yet its blouse ended frankly at the belt. Its trimming consisted of narrow braid and a brown satin frill, straps of the goods closing

the bodice.

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G. PALMER, Editor & Proprietor

THURSDAY, DEC. 16, 1897.

Entered in the Post Office, at Gray
Box Mich., as second-class matter.

POLITICAL AND MISCELLANEOUS.

Saturday's statement of the condition of the U. S. Treasury shows: Available cash balance, \$227,034,120; gold reserve, \$158,720,212.

Foreign money orders are reported twice as heavy as last year, which means a large increase in immigration shortly.

Speaker Reed says he sees no reason why the present session of Congress should be a protracted one. The country shares in this view.

Four years ago Colorado produced \$8,000,000 in gold, annually. Its production this year will be \$22,000,000. Colorado will, at this rate, be sold for the gold standard by 1900.

Brooklyn is getting ready to go out of existence December 31st. After that date New York will be one of the States without a place of that name.

The sudden appearance of two German cruisers with an ultimatum in a Haytian port is an example of what happens to a nation without naval defenses.

An elaborate analysis of the election returns of 1897 settles one thing positively. The heaviest Democratic losses were in the states where the silver plank of 1896 was re-adopted.

England once more is represented by a Minister in Venezuela. A few grains of the Monroe doctrine settled a controversy that should never have been allowed to threaten the peace of America.

The National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic will probably meet the third week in September in Cincinnati. There is a dispute over the time but it will probably be settled as stated.

The Russian Government is buying large quantities of army supplies in San Francisco, to be shipped to its seaport on the eastern shore of Asia. In all the mutations of international politics, the Czar maintains a uniform friendly feeling for this country. Globe-Democrat.

The silver statesmen who visited Japan last summer, ought to have reported before the departure of Mr. Bryan for Mexico, and thus enabled him to advise the Mexicans how to escape that horrible fatality which has drawn the most intelligent nations of the earth away from the fluctuating silver standard.

The new tariff law presents its compliments to its framers on their return to Washington with an evidence of steady growth in earnings. They were in August \$19,023,614; in September \$21,993,098; in October \$21,391,415, and in November \$25,000,000. This is a steady healthful growth, which indicates that long before its first year has ended it will be producing the promised surplus.

Senators Pettigrew, Mante and Dubois should hasten their report on the true condition of gold-ridden Japan in time to warn the Chilian statesmen who are now buying gold in London preparatory to carrying out their plan for a change in monetary standard. But perhaps their report is not as favorable to silver as they expected.

There is a superficial indication that Wellington Mr. Burt will again make the run for Governor on the Democratic ticket. There is no other gentleman within the whole range of our acquaintance who has a more graceful or impressive manner of accepting defeat. It is a downright pleasure to do political business with Mr. Burt. —Detroit Journal.

The Michigan Central is building another branch to tap a large tract of pine and hardwood in Otsego Co., which is owned by Salling, Hanson & Co., of Grayling. The new branch will be about 12 miles long, and is to be laid with steel rails, which would indicate that it is to be a permanent line. It leaves the Lewiston Branch one mile east of Lovell station, and will run in a northerly direction. The Cheboygan News understands that Salling, Hanson & Co. will erect a saw mill at the terminus of the road, and will build up a new town. It was the intention of the firm to build a mill at Gaylord, but they have been compelled to change their plans. —Oscoda Press.

Additional Local Items.

The Rose City News, which suspended publication in 1894, because the town was not large enough to support a good newspaper, is on deck again, with editor James E. Dudley at the helm.

The Cheboygan Flax Fiber Co. has been delayed in commencing the manufacture of the fibre on account of delay in receiving the rollers. They arrived last week, and the factory began turning out fibre.

The passenger and freight depots, at Alger, were torn down, last week, and moved to Pinconning, to take the place of the burned depots there. The depot at Otsego Lake will be moved to Alger.

We will furnish our subscribers with the AVALANCHE and the WEEKLY INTER-OCEAN, for \$1.50 per year in advance. The WEEKLY INTER-OCEAN is without doubt the best weekly paper published in Chicago. Now is the time to subscribe.

The new Grand Rapids, Kalkaska & Southeastern rail road has been completed from Van Buren to Kalkaska, and trains are run regularly over that division of the road. A handsome new depot has been built at Kalkaska.

J. L. Palmer, of Frederic, brought to this office one stalk of corn with three well developed ears, and one with seven. It was a sweet corn of unknown variety. He also brought a sample of millet as fine as ever grown.

J. J. Coventry, of Maple Forest, was in town last week, attending the Institute. He is a progressive farmer, as he called and renewed his subscription to the AVALANCHE and also subscribed for the Michigan Farmer and Semi-Weekly Detroit Journal.

Editor Jay Allen dips his pen in vitriol whenever he writes of the Grayling bank failure, and it transpires that he had \$350.00 in the bank. His more or less esteemed contemporaries are wondering how on earth an editor came to have so much money. —Mid Mail.

Geo. W. Wood, of Lake City, has purchased 8,000 acres of denuded pine lands in Missaukee county, and will divide the tract into small parcels, and sell it on easy terms to farmers. The land is within a few miles of Lake City. Most of the land is the kind that grows the best potato crops.

At the regular annual election of officers of the Woman's Relief Corps, Dec. 8th, the following ladies were elected for the ensuing year: Pres., Mrs. Eunice R. Mitchell; Sen. Vice President, Mrs. Julie Willis; Jun. Vice Pres., Mrs. Violette Parmater; Sec., Mrs. D. Stewart; Treas., Mrs. Tuttle; Chaplain, Mrs. Emma Marshall; Con., Mrs. Roxie Slade; Assist. Con., Mrs. Mary Fesler; Guard, Mrs. L. Stevenson; Assist. Guard, Mrs. Mary Anderson. —Otsego Co. News.

Every lover of a noble woman will sympathize with President McKinley in the death of his aged mother. She was a woman of high ideals, whose whole life was a lesson to humanity in goodness sincerity and truth. If Ohio has furnished more than its share of Presidents during the last 30 years it is because there are so many great women in the state—not great in the sense of being conspicuous in public affairs, but eminent in that smaller and more potential sphere, the home. Mrs. Grant and Mrs. Garfield were women of this type, and like Mrs. McKinley, they lived long enough to see their sons reach the highest office in the gift of the republic. —Detroit Journal.

Jack Pine Items.

EDITOR AVALANCHE:

John Hartman has improved his homestead by erecting a new building.

Joseph Funch, of Ball, is spending a few days with grandma Gubtins, of Sterling, who formerly lived in Oscoda.

Albert Funch, of Ball, has his new house nearly completed, but has already moved in. He says, he is glad to be at home again.

There will be a Christmas tree at the Hartman school house in Grove, on Christmas Eve. Everybody invited. Bring your presents.

From Pere Cheney.

Editor Avalanche:—Last Wednesday evening about 40 friends and neighbors of Mrs. Henry Funch dropped in on them, about 8 o'clock with a genuine surprise to the family, to cheer them up in the absence of Mr. Funch, and made a success of it in every sense of the word. There was some fine classical music rendered on the organ by the Misses Funch and Alice Shafer, also singing, dancing, and plays, after which they enjoyed a bountiful lunch, served by the ladies. We wound up about 2 o'clock with God bless you all, and come again.

DON.

The Farmer's Institute.

The Crawford County Farmer's Institute was called to order by the president soon after 10:30 a. m., but on account of the meager attendance it was decided to postpone the regular programme, and the conductor, Mr. A. E. Palmer, of Kalkaska, being introduced, gave a brief talk to those present, concerning Institute work, the Farmer's Home Reading Circle, and the Special Winter Courses at the Agricultural College, showing their several advantages to the Agricultural elements of the state.

At 1:30 p. m. the Institute was again convened, with 15 present, which was augmented during the session to 43.

Mr. A. E. Palmer occupied the first part of the session with the subject of the "Farm Dairy." A profitable lot of questions were propounded and answered by the speaker, and followed by Mr. Perry Ostrander. Subject: "Corn for this Section." He presented specimens grown in this county, this year, averaging from 50 to 100 bushels of ears per acre. Some discussion followed in regard to methods of cultivation, and an adjournment was taken to evening.

The Opera House was comfortably filled for the evening session, and Mr. A. E. Palmer presented the subject of "Soil Fertility, from whence and how maintained." It was handled in a masterly manner, and will prove profitable to the farmers who were present.

He was followed by Mrs. May A. Mayo, of Battle Creek, on "The unappreciated side of Farm Life." Mrs. Mayo was listened to with undivided attention, and it is fair to say that her words found responsive echo in every heart, and that her presence here will be ever gratefully remembered by everyone who was fortunate enough to hear her.

Thursday morning's session was occupied by I. N. Cowdry, of Ithaca, on "The Rotation of Crops." A practical farmer, from a practical standpoint, and in a practical manner, gave food for thought, and will help many in planning their future work on the farm.

He was followed by J. J. Coventry, on "The various Soils of Crawford County," whose presentation of the subject proved that he had given the matter careful consideration, and that our soils are as varied as can be found in a like section anywhere.

In the afternoon the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President—O. Palmer.

Sec. and Treas.—J. J. Coventry.

Vice-Presidents—Ball, Geo. Hartman, South Branch; E. T. Waldron; Center Plains, H. T. Shafer; Beaver Creek, John Hanna; Grove, Hugo Schreiber; Maple Forest, J. J. Niederer; Blaine, F. E. Hoesli; Frederic, W. Batterson; Grayling, P. Ostrander. The President and Secretary were elected delegates to the Round-up Institute.

After the election Mr. P. Ostrander presented several specimens of Sand Vetch, raised on the Plains this season, from 4 to 10 ft. 4 in. long, and perfect masses of verdure, which seems to prove that the question of growing "Legumes" on the Plains is settled.

He was followed by A. P. Gray, a practical horticulturist of Grand Traverse county, on fruit growing,

who gave briefly the experience of years with all varieties, and his methods of cultivation.

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J. C. HANSON, LOCAL EDITOR.
THURSDAY, DEC. 16, 1897.

LOCAL ITEMS.

Pay or stop, will be our motto for 1898.

There is an advertised letter in the Post Office, here, for David Ward.

Dining Chairs, open cane seats, from \$6.00 up, at Braden & Forbes.

C. Faustley, of Grove township, was in town, last Thursday.

Buy a Garland Stove of S. H. & Co., and keep warm.

A. H. Anns, of Beaver Creek, was in town, last Saturday.

A good large Couch, for \$8.50, at Braden & Forbes.

Supervisor Hoesel, of Blaine township, was in town last Friday.

Order the Delinester of S. H. & Co.

Henry M. Green and family moved to Vassar, yesterday.

Buy your Evaporated and Canned Fruits, at Bates & Co's.

Supervisor Hanna, of Beaver Creek township, was in town, Monday.

Bring your Wheat and Rye to S. H. & Co.

Wm. McCullough drove to Luzerne, on business, Tuesday morning.

Fifteen bars of Lion Soap for 25 cents, at Claggett's.

Myron Dyer and wife, of Blaine township, were in town, yesterday.

Claggett's Golden Sunrise Tea can't be beat. Only 25 cents. Try it.

Henry Stephan, treasurer of Grove township, was in town, yesterday.

Order Butterick's Patterns of S. H. & Co.

Supervisor T. Wakeley, of Grove township, was in town, yesterday.

Nice Assortment of Mouldings, at Braden & Forbes'.

Mrs. McClellan, of Bay City, is the guest of Mrs. Chas. Trombley.

Pure Maple Syrup for your Pancakes, at Claggett's.

Supervisor F. P. Richardson, of South Branch, was in town, yesterday.

For Picture Framing go to Braden & Forbes'.

BORN—On the 8th inst., to Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Babbitt, a son, weight ten pounds.

Santa Claus will make his headquarters at Fournier's Drug Store.

Mrs. C. T. Jerome gave a card party last Saturday evening, and Miss Culver won the prize.

Dolls and Toys of all descriptions, at Fournier's Drug Store.

Henry Feldhauser, of Blaine township, attended the Farmer's Institute held here last week.

No. 1 Sewing Machine, warranted, for \$25.00, at Braden & Forbes.

Ell Forbush and daughter, of Maple Forest township, were in town last Saturday, shopping.

Hand Sleds, at your own prices, at the Furniture Store.

Comrade D. S. Waldron, of South Branch township, was in town, last Monday.

FOR SALE—A \$125.00 Organ, as good as new, very cheap. Inquire at this office.

S. S. Claggett offers \$5,000 reward for any impurities found in his Buckwheat Flour. Try it.

Perry Ostrand, of Pere Cheney, was in town last Thursday, attending the Institute.

Handsome, large Antique Cupboard, for \$12.00, at Braden & Forbes'.

J. J. Niederer, of Maple Forest, was in town last Wednesday and Thursday, attending the Institute.

JA-VO Blend is the name of Claggett's 25 cent Coffee. Best on earth for the money.

P. M. Hoyt, of Maple Forest township, was in town last week, attending the Institute.

Bates & Co. are offering the choicest Teas and the best Coffees in town.

A Masquerade Ball, (Danish) was given at the Opera House, last Saturday night.

Upholstered Rockers, spring seat, from \$3.50 up, at the Furniture Store.

Wm. Mantz, of Lewiston, an old resident of Grayling, was in town last Saturday.

Scores of the leading farmers of the county did not attend the Institute last week. It was their loss.

Call at Bates & Co's. for School Supplies and Tablets. A gift with every Tablet.

Wesley Lilly, of Standish, aged 15, went hunting last Sunday and shot himself. He died soon afterward.

Don't miss the Novelty Social, at the W. R. C. Hall, Friday evening, Dec. 17th.

A large line of Fancy Rockers for your Christmas presents, at Braden & Forbes.

Go with your pockets full of Nickels, if you want to have fun at the Novelty Social, Friday evening.

Ladies, call at S. H. & Co's. store and get a Metropolitan Fashion Sheet free.

Something new! Something new! Don't miss it, at the W. R. C. hall, Friday evening, Dec. 17th.

If anything is wanted, in our line for Christmas, leave your order early at Braden & Forbes.

Now is a good time to pay your subscription. The AVALANCHE needs money.

Go and hear the pupils at the Concert, Tuesday evening, Dec. 21st. Many choice selections will be given.

S. H. & Co. are buying Wheat and Rye, and paying highest market price for it.

James Carr has been living on his homestead in Maple Forest. He will go it alone.

If you want a good well made Room Suit for \$15.00, call at Braden & Forbes'.

We shall have to call on the singers in the future. Encourage them by your presence, Tuesday evening, Dec. 21st.

The best place in Grayling to buy Hay, Grain and Feed, is at Bates & Co's. Prices guaranteed.

If you want the AVALANCHE for 1898, pay your past due subscription during December.

Now is your time to buy Carpets, before we raise the price. Braden & Forbes'.

John W. Loucks, an old veteran, and one of Cheboygan's best citizens, died last Thursday morning and was buried on Saturday.

Square top Extension Tables, well made, from \$4.50 up, at Braden & Forbes'.

Rev. Larson held services in the Danish language, at the Methodist church, on Sunday afternoon, also on Monday evening.

H. W. Mansir, the optician, will remain here only one week longer. Those wishing to consult him in regard to their sight should leave their orders for calls, with Andrew Peterson as soon as possible.

FOURNIER'S DRUG STORE.

If you want a good Carpet Sweeper, you can get it at the Furniture Store of Braden & Forbes'.

Mrs. Arnold, who was visiting with Miss L. E. Williams, returned to her home at Mackinaw Island, last Friday. A large number of the ladies who had made her acquaintance while here, accompanied her to the depot.

The Bay City Beet Sugar Co. was organized last week. R. Hanson was elected one of the Directors, and will look after the interests of the Beet producers of Crawford county. Work will commence on the buildings at once.

I have sent out several hundred statements of subscription accounts, this week, which I trust will meet with prompt and cheerful response. I have carried everything possible during the last four years of depression, but have reached the end of my tether, and must now say "pay or stop."

Bucklin's Arnica Salve.

The Best Salve in the world for Cuts, Bruises Sores, Ulcers, Sore Throat, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction, or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by L. Fournier, drugist.

Albert Kraus has no cheap store Tin Ware, but sells good Tin Ware cheap. Call and be convinced.

JA-VO Blend is the name of Claggett's 25 cent Coffee. Best on earth for the money.

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Awarded Highest Honors—World's Fair.

DR.

PRICE'S

CREAM

BAKING

POWDER

MOST PERFECT MADE.

A pure Grape Cream of Tartar Powder. Free from Ammonia, Alum or any other adulterant.

40 YEARS THE STANDARD.

Mr. McClellan will sing eight songs, which alone are worth the price of the admission, at the concert, Tuesday evening.

A ball and supper will be given at the Opera House, on Friday evening, the 31st, under the auspices of the Opera House Association. Supper will be served at the Grayling House.

Claggett's new line of Canned Goods consists of Evergreen, Ruby, Lily of the Valley Sugar Corn, Ruby Succotash, Biscuits and Favorite Peas, Tip Top, Roast Beef and Ruby Tomatoes. Try 'em.

I. Rosenthal, of N. Y. City, put in an appearance one day last week. We trust he has come to stay as it looks natural to see him around, and Grayling is far ahead of N. Y. City, as a place to reside.

F. D. Harrison is building an addition to his place of business, in which he will put a steam laundry. It will be in full operation the first of next month. Further particulars will be given hereafter.

The Ladies' Aid Society of the M. E. Church, will meet at the Parsonage, to-morrow afternoon, the 17th, at 2 o'clock. A general invitation is extended to everybody to attend. A light lunch will be served.

The Epworth League will give a Novelty Social at W. R. C. hall, to-morrow evening, the 17th. If you wish to learn what it is, attend it and take along a supply of nickels if you wish to enjoy it thoroughly.

Do we realize the expense and time the singers of the town have given without compensation. Show your appreciation Tuesday evening, by your presence at the Opera House.

The special term of Court, held here last Monday, was adjourned to Jan. 10th, 1898. Judge Sharpe and Stenographer Austin were present and the local bar enjoyed a visit with them, even if no special business was transacted.

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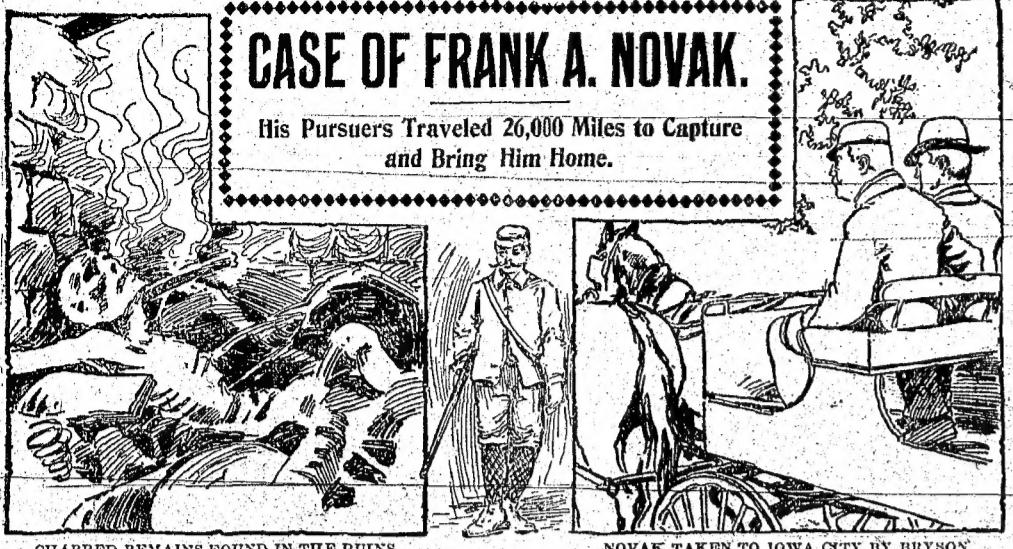
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CASE OF FRANK A. NOVAK.

His Pursuers Traveled 26,000 Miles to Capture and Bring Him Home.



CHARRED REMAINS FOUND IN THE RUINS.

NOVAK TAKEN TO IOWA CITY BY BRYSON.



FRANK A. NOVAK.

THE case of Frank A. Novak, convicted at Vinton, Iowa, of murder in the second degree, is one of the most remarkable in the courtrooms of the West. The story of the crime, as brought out by evidence at the trial, and of Novak's flight and his subsequent capture at Dawson City, Alaska, almost as soon as he had set foot in the Klondike country, reads more like fiction than fact. The St. Louis Sunday Republic recently contained a full-page illustrated account of the escape of Novak; his arrest in the icy north and his return to the scene of the crime for trial. On the morning of February 3, 1897, the store building of Novak & Jilek at Walford, Iowa, together with the adjoining building, in which Frank A. Novak conducted a private bank, was consumed by fire. Walford is a village, unincorporated, on the Kansas City branch of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway, situated sixteen miles west of Cedar Rapids, in the eastern portion of Benton County. The fire by which the buildings were destroyed had gained so much headway when discovered by the villagers that it was impossible to extinguish the flames. It was announced that Frank A. Novak was missing and as it had been the custom of Novak, or his partner and brother-in-law, Jilek, to sleep in the store building, it was believed by his friends that he had perished in the flames.

It was discovered that Edward Murray, a young man of the neighborhood, was also missing. Novak's friends said that both had perished in the fire or that Murray had killed and robbed Novak and fled. As motive for Murray's alleged killing of Novak it was stated that Novak had inadvertently left about \$500 in his store which he had intended to express to Cedar Rapids to the bank with which he transacted business. It was alleged that Murray knew of the failure to put the money into the envelope with the bank book and deposit slip which were sent to Cedar Rapids on the evening of February 3. Murray's relatives believed that Novak had killed and cremated Murray and buried his own store. As a direct motive for such crime they urged a determination to defraud insurance companies. Novak held regular life and accident policies to the amount of more than \$30,000.

A few hours after the fire a charred body was found in the basement. Novak and Murray were of almost identical size and build and identification of the remains might have been impossible but for two circumstances. Bits of cotton shirting were found under the neck and in the arm-pits. These were identified by Mrs. Nellie Shea as pieces of a shirt she had given to her brother.

Novak had had dental work of a permanent nature done in Cedar Rapids. A description of this work was obtained by newspaper men at work on the case and telegraphed to Walford. The teeth in the skull did not correspond with the description of Novak's teeth and on these two points the Coroner's jury found the body to be that of Edward Murray. There was a fracture of the skull on the rear portion which had probably been made by the pole

of an ax found in the ruins at some distance from the body, and that had caused concussion of the brain. On the body being exhumed by the State the stomach was found to contain poison. When the villagers had sought to extinguish the fire the building was found to be full of gas from a plant installed therein.

Suspicion of Novak's guilt was

strengthened when his father left Walton on an early train on the morning of February 3, and before the remains had been found in the ruins, and went to Cedar Rapids to examine the bank account kept by his son.

On the return of the Coroner's jury a warrant for the arrest of Frank A. Novak on the charge of murder was issued and the State offered \$500 for his apprehension. To this sum Benton County added a reward of \$200. The case was taken up by the Travelers' Insurance Company of Hartford, Conn., in which Novak held a \$10,000 policy. A St. Louis detective agency was employed and operatives were set at work on the case.

The first trace of Novak was found at a farmhouse several miles south of Walford, where he had taken breakfast. He was at that place wearing a cap, hunting coat and German socks. He was heard from again at Holbrook, a village farther south, where a local merchant gave him bills for \$50 in silver. Novak was carrying a considerable quantity of silver and claimed to be collecting for a liquor house. From Holbrook Novak was taken to Iowa City by one John Bryson, a young man, who was paid \$7 for making the drive of twenty-six miles. For several days the track was lost. It was learned later that Novak had bought a ticket from Iowa City to Council Bluffs early on the morning of February 4. From that time the trail, although followed with difficulty at times, was

through the Chilkoot Pass, built at the head of Lake Linderman, passed Novak and his party, unknowingly, on Lake Bennett and arrived at Dawson City ahead of the fugitive. On July 12, the very day of Novak's arrival at Dawson City, he was placed under arrest. The detective with his prisoner took passage on a Yukon steamer and was joined by Operative Clouse at St. Michael's.

The Portland, on which they took passage, arrived at Seattle October 20, and on September 2, just seven months from the day of the beginning of his flight from Walford. Novak was locked in a steel cage in the Vinton jail and held to answer to the charge of murder. While engaged in the pursuit and on the return Detective Perrin traveled 26,000 miles.

Novak stated to the detective in explanation of the death of Edward Murray that after a series of unfortunate events following him through his business career, in the shape of improvident investments, robberies of his safe and burning of his store, and such misfortunes, he found that he was reduced to the extremity of procuring another loan of \$500, and was preparing to start early on the morning of February 3 to get an uncle of his, living a few miles south of Walford, to endorse a note of that amount so that he could bank it. On the evening of February 2, Ed Murray was in Walford and loaned his team to a couple of young men to take a drive into the country. Murray was drinking and went into the store with Novak, and while the latter was in the basement fixing up the fire in the furnace, Murray got hold of a bottle of whisky which was heavily charged with morphine left in the store as a dose for burglars in case they ever made another successful entrance, and took a large drink of it. When Novak came out of the basement where he had been fixing the fire, he found what Murray had done, as the bottle was partly empty and Murray in a stupor condition. He then took Murray up

the stairs and put him to bed, while he (Novak) returned into the body of the store and lay down to read upon the counter under a gas burner. He dropped off to sleep and at some time during the night woke up and found the store on fire, the flames coming up the hatchway out of the basement. He then made a couple of efforts to get at Murray to rescue him, but failed, as the whole store was being rapidly enveloped in flames. Starting to run out, he came in contact with his shotgun, standing against the counter where he had placed it the evening before to have it in readiness as a companion for his intended trip on the morning of the 3d into the country, and pulling it up made his escape out of the building. He walked around the consuming building several times, his first intention being to raise an alarm, but realizing that Murray was dead and that life had no allurements for himself in that place or among that people, he turned and fled, resolving to drop into oblivion where he would never be heard of again.

Novak was placed on trial in the District Court of Benton County, Judge Burham presiding, Tuesday, November 9. The State subpoenaed nearly fifty witnesses, and the defense a large number. County Attorney Tobin was assisted in the prosecution by E. M. Boles of Waterloo, son of ex-Gov. Boles, and Tom Milner of Bell Plaine, was assisted by Judge Ney of Iowa City in the defense.

In contradiction of the confession of Novak the State developed testimony to prove that the body found in the basement on a pile of coal and resting on a mattress supported by a cot must have been in that position when the fire started. The case was in all its details the most sensational ever tried in Iowa.

The jury which heard the case

land, disposing of the remaining par-

to a broker. From Portland Novak traveled by rail to Seattle, expecting to embark on the Steamer Alki for Juneau. The Alki had sailed and Novak continued his journey to Port Townsend, Wash., where he arrived in time to take passage on the Alki. To his ticket at this place Novak signed J. A. Smith, the name of a physician who had conducted his physical examinations when making application for insurance policies. It is a peculiar circumstance that a photograph of this ticket introduced in evidence shows that Novak was assigned to room 13.

When it was found that Novak had gone to Juneau with the evident intention of continuing his journey inland, the case was turned over to Detective Charles C. Perrin of San Francisco, formerly marshal of Tucson, and he procured extradition papers on the Governor of Canada. He had already provided himself with requisition papers on the Governor of Alaska. In case the fugitive might be found with orders to remodel the verdict in that jurisdiction.

The grand jury of Benton County had indicted Novak for murder, arson and attempted fraud on insurance companies, and on a warrant specifying these charges Detective Perrin was prepared to make the arrest. Operative D. L. Clouse at St. Michael's

was to be present when the body was exhumed by the State to determine if the stomach was found to contain poison. When Novak was asked if he had anything to say why sentence should not be passed upon him, he protested his innocence and said he would not have been satisfied with a verdict of acquittal until the guilty man had been apprehended and punished. As soon as he resumed his seat the judge again called him to his feet and passed the life sentence upon him.

How She Became Noted.

As every one knows, "Lady Audley's Secret" was the novel which lifted Miss Braddon into fame. It may not be so generally known that the author had so little confidence in her work as to bring it out in an obscure serial, Robin Goodfellow.

The story of the story is a romance in itself. Mr. Maxwell had started, in more or less rivalry to Dickens' first periodical, the magazine called Robin Goodfellow. Dr. Mackay was its editor and Lascelles Wraxall was his second in command. There had been some difficulty in regard to the opening novel, in consequence of which the new periodical was on the eve of postponement, a serious contretemps in the face of the extensively advertised date of publication. The day before a decision was necessary Miss Braddon heard of the difficulty and offered to write the story.

"But even if you were strong enough to fill the position," was the publisher's reply, "there is no time."

"How long could you give me?" asked the aspiring authoress.

"Until to-morrow morning."

"At what time to-morrow morning?" "If the first installment were on my breakfast table to-morrow morning," he replied, indicating by his tone and manner the utter impossibility of the thing, "it would be in time."

The next morning the publisher found upon his breakfast table the opening chapters of "Lady Audley's Secret."

Robin Goodfellow did not lift the publisher, he did not live to finish "Lady Audley," which, indeed, would have remained "forgotten, buried dead," had Miss Braddon not been able to prevail upon a publisher to bring it out in three volume form. It then sprang into an instantaneous popularity. The success of the novel was amazing, and probably the critics did no harm to the sale by describing the work as "sensational." More than 1,000,000 copies have been sold.

A Present from George III.

Here is a picture of the fire-tube that George III. presented to his loyal subjects of Shelburne, N. S., in 1765. This was in the days when the town was a populous and thriving place. Half the royalists who left Boston during the

Revolution built houses in Shelburne and, of course, the king could not see such loyal subjects suffer for lack of proper protection against fire. The tube is still in a fair state of preservation.

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Electricity in America.

According to statistics the number of yearly telephone conversations in the United States is 75,000,000; of telegraphic messages, 65,000,000; of arc lights, 1,000,000; of incandescent lights, 15,000,000. There are several hundred thousand electric motors and 1,000 electric railways. It is estimated that 2,500,000 persons in this country electricity contributes a means of livelihood.

New Use for Paper.

Paper is constantly being used for new purposes. Now jackets are made of it to support those weak spines that hitherto have been held in position by heavy plaster jackets. On this ticket he traveled to Port

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to a broker. From Portland Novak traveled by rail to Seattle, expecting to embark on the Steamer Alki for Juneau. The Alki had sailed and Novak continued his journey to Port Townsend, Wash., where he arrived in time to take passage on the Alki. To his ticket at this place Novak signed J. A. Smith, the name of a physician who had conducted his physical examinations when making application for insurance policies. It is a peculiar circumstance that a photograph of this ticket introduced in evidence shows that Novak was assigned to room 13.

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LIFE.

A crust of bread and a corner to sleep in,
A minute to smile and an hour to weep in,
A pint of joy to a peck of trouble,
And never a laugh but the means come double;
And that is life!

A crust and a corner that love makes precious,
With the smile to warm and the tears to refresh us;
And joy seems sweeter when care comes after,
And a moan is the fustest of toils for laughter;
And that is life!

—Paul Lawrence Dunbar.

SIMPSON'S RANCH.

"I don't see no sense in it, nohow." It was the older of two stalwart "cow-punchers" that delivered this oracular statement. In private life he was once probably Mr. Smith or Mr. Jones, but this must have been in days which were prehistoric as far as his fellows in the cattle country were concerned. To them he was, and had always been, "Broncho Sam"; and old Bill Kensem up on the divide, whose age was beyond mortal ken, and who was a stalwart man when he tramped with Ruxton and traded with St. Vrain, was on record as saying that he "allowed that when that youngster come from the States he hadn't no other name than Broncho Sam." That settled it.

"That youngster" was a relative, certainly not a positive characterization; for Broncho Sam was a veteran, and he looked it as he sat on a rude bench outside the ruder log cabin, and facing the west. To an Eastern eye his surroundings were the abomination of desolation. The cabin stood in a narrow valley near the bed, almost dry, of what might be a stream. To the gray banks inclosing it, a few stunted and distorted cedars were precariously clinging, and at a distance there were some patches of sagebrush. As unwise, indeed, were he who should look at these things, as he who should curiously inspect the squalid streets of Naples when by lifting his eyes he could see across the beautiful bay to the grand silhouette of Vesuvius, with Sorrento and Capri in the distance. Here, above the barren outlines of grim canons, above the sparsely wooded foot-hills, above the jagged outlying peaks, rose in its simple, majestic the great range. Across the exquisite blue sky overhead drifted clouds as white as the driven snow, and light and fleecy as those under which once lay the Isles of the Blest. It was near sunset, after the radiance of an autumn day, and the air was deliciously clear, cool and bracing.

Broncho Sam was not looking at the mountain or sky, but at a gun which he was cleaning. His companion, a younger man and evidently a disciple, had been watching his skillful manipulation, and listening to the words of wisdom which fell from his lips, for a famed ranch manager was this same Broncho Sam; and fortunate were his employers, far away in "the States," whose interests were intrusted to his faithful care.

Then came a voice through the open door—a fresh, youthful, ringing voice: "Just you wait a minute, Sam, and I'll come out and argue the point with you. I have not an idea what you are talking about, but I say there is some sense in it, and what is it all about, anyway?"

Sam uttered an unintelligible grunt. It could not have one of entire dissatisfaction, for something like a smile showed itself on his rugged features, and was plainly visible as he looked up and saw Jack Reynolds standing in the doorway. A handsome young fellow he was, and a general favorite in all the region for fifty miles round; even since he came out from Chicago—when the doctor sent him after a long illness—he had added as steadily to his list of friends as to the hardness of his muscles, the color in his cheeks, and the figure at which he turned the doin's.

"Blame me if he don't just lay over any tenderfoot I ever see," said Broncho Sam, one day, as he stood in an admiring crowd at the bar of the Arcade saloon in Pueblo. "Gimme a show, and I'll make him a first-class ranch hand in a year or two."

"He ain't no slouch of a ranchman now, accordin' to my idee," said a rash new-comer.

Sam looked at him with an undisguised contempt, clearly shared by the bystanders. "Perhaps he is, an' perhaps he ain't," said he. "I allow you oughter know better'n I. Yes, Jim, you may gimme another one of the same sort."

Jack, it may easily be believed, was the soul of the ranch. He interested himself in the operations, and made a creditable figure at the first "round up." He could soon ride the worst of the "bucking" horses, and throw a lariat with many an older man. He was a bit of a dandy too, in his way, and did not disdain a gilt cord with pendent tassels around the crown of an expensive sombrero, a gay necktie loosely knotted and lying snugly under the riding collar of his gray flannel shirt, or a pair of long riding boots of exceptional make. All this finery, however, was reserved for other places than the ranch, and other occasions than the days passed there. The most cynical of "old-timers" found nothing to criticize in his display thereof when he rode into Pueblo for a day of combined business and pleasure; and, in a way, they felt a local pride in one who could hold a certificate of competency from such a Sir Hubert as Broncho Sam, and at the same time he, by the canons of that longitude, a very respectable "swell." More than one young lady member of some party of "personally conducted" tourists had looked admiringly at him from the window of the Denver Pullman as he sat on his horse near the station platform; and the landlord of the Arcade saloon was understood to have, in a rare interval of sobriety, expressed the opinion that such an exhibition was good for the interests of the region. "Why," said he, "that ain't no two ways about it. When them tenderfeet an' fancy tourists seein' out' like that, they'll kind o' think ranchin' is a boss business, an' it'll put 'em to comin' out here an' buyin' land, an' startin' a boom in ranches an' helpin' trade. Yer see, they'll

think all ranchmen is like him, an' they'll git mighty badly left; but that ain't your funeral nor mine. Say, young feller, what'll yer take? Nothin'?" "Wa'al, suit yerself."

Three miles above the ranch where Jack lived was another, of rather better character as regarded its buildings, which stood close to the head of the creek. It belonged to a man named Simpson. Most people liked him; few knew him well. There was a vague impression abroad that Simpson had a history, and that his ownership of a Western ranch was but an episode in a life far different from that which most of his neighbors had been born to; but there was that about him which repelled inquisitiveness. His cattle were numerous and in good condition; he was active and efficient in the roundup, but his patronage of the Arcade saloon was of the scantlest; and he was somewhat eccentric in the making up of what another and more formal state of society would have been a visiting-list. Those, however, who had enjoyed the hospitalities of Simpson's ranch had much to say of a wife who often wore "store clothes" and of a daughter of about nineteen, a pretty girl, it was reported, as had ever been seen from Denver down to Chuchas, and as bright as the sunlight on the plains. Not many had seen her; few still knew her; yet her fame had gone abroad. She was graciously idealized; she was held to belong, in a sense, to the region; and there was not a cowboy on the range who would not have broken a lance for her, were for more practical emptied his gun" as her champion.

Among the visitors at Simpson's Ranch we may be sure that Jack Reynolds was numbered. His first visit was made at a notable time in its history. Two days before (stopping to return a horse which he had found straying) he had made the acquaintance of the family. Simpson himself had suddenly gone away. He had left in Pueblo, and the postmaster stated at the Arcade that he had received a large and thick letter, but he was a little misty as to the postmark. That night Simpson departed. Some people thought he rode a little to the northward, and took a train at a small station. A theory that he secreted himself in a freight car also found supporters. But one individual, and he was half inebriated, had suggested suicide, and he had been promptly ejected from the saloon by the force of public opinion.

Months and months had passed, and Simpson had not appeared. Wonder grew as to his whereabouts; much curiosity was engendered as to the condition and feelings of his family, and no little effort was made to gratify this curiosity. Whatever the wife and daughter thus seemingly deserted, may have felt, however, they gave no sign to visitors. No one was there half so often as Jack Reynolds, and there was a general, if unspoken, sentiment throughout that this was as it should; also that it would be alike improper and futile to seek for any information about Simpson from him. No better test, indeed, could there be of the esteem in which he was held than this rare self-abnegation.

Again several months passed, and still there appeared no Simpson. His neighbors were more puzzled, more curious, more hopelessly in the dark, than ever, and they began to feel aggrieved. Broncho Sam had been voicing this sentiment, in conversation with his assistant, when he made the declaration with which this story opens, and which was preceded by another.

"I jest tell you," said he, "that when a man lights out and leaves such a good-appearin' wife an' such a poor little gal ez is up to Simpson's, an' don't send 'em no word, it's playin' it pretty low on 'em, unless he's got a blamed good reason for a doin' so."

That he would discuss this point with Jack was highly improbable; they talked of cattle and the season's prospects, and there was no word of Simpson during the plain supper or the placid pipe-smoking which followed. When they "turned in," the sky was overcast, and during the night there came a gale of wind which almost shook the house. It was in the gray of early morning that a violent, knocking at the door brought all three men to their feet alert in an instant. Jack was the first at the door, and opened it. A man stood there holding the bridle of a panting horse. His words were few and to the point. There had been a storm and cloudburst in the mountains; the great reservoir which fed the irrigating ditches was in imminent peril; there would be a terrible "wash-out" in the valley.

"Have you warned them at Simpson's?" asked Jack, breathlessly.

"I come the other way."

Broncho Sam had his eyes on Jack's face, and saw the color leave it. He rose to the occasion in an instant.

"Ever hit do it, my boy," said he,

"but just yet ride like Jehu. Git yer

horse on, an' I'll have the saddle on

Comanche."

In five minutes Jack, with his head bent to the blast, was spurring his horse wildly up the valley.

There was nothing aesthetic about the external appearance of Simpson's ranch. The architecture of the house was of the early cow-boy period, with suggestions of that of the mining camp. There was a sevare simplicity about the roughly hewn logs which made up the walls, and although the freaks of fashion bring many queer things into popular use, the plastering of crevices with adobe has not yet been naturalized in polite neighborhoods. Never, however, should the wise traveler in the West or Southwest judge of the kernel by the shell, or the interior by the exterior. Both Mrs. Simpson and her daughter possessed the rare and charming "gift of practical management," which Hawthorne has ascribed to little Pheobe, "It is a kind of natural magic," he says, "that enables these favored ones to bring out the hidden capabilities of things about them; and particularly to give a look of comfort and habitability to any place which for however brief a period may happen to be their home."

So did cheap and simple material take new character and virtue from their hands; so were rough walls hidden by chintz of tasteful pattern and homogeneous tint; so did refinement supply the place of costly equipment. Jack Reynolds realized all this

first time he entered the building. To be sure, he saw it under favorable circumstances.

The daughter of the house had come out to meet him as he approached. When she saw it was her own favorite horse he had brought home, her face lit up by a smile which went straight to his heart. Before his visit came to an end he discovered that her name was Edith. What more he discovered about her no one but himself would know; but it could not have been otherwise than pleasant, for he arrived at his home in the highest spirits. He counted the days until he thought he might call again, and he made them as few as he possibly could. It was strong evidence of Broncho Sam's partiality for his young friend that he took but mild exception to what must surely be a detraction to an embryo cow-boy; but there was that about him which repelled inquisitiveness. His cattle were numerous and in good condition; he was active and efficient in the roundup, but his patronage of the Arcade saloon was of the scantlest; and he was somewhat eccentric in the making up of what another and more formal

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